

Romulus News

JANUARY 14, 2005 – JANUARY 27, 2005

"the little paper"

VOLUME 18 NUMBER 12

Timely Tidbits ...

Lambert Gives "State of the City" Address

Romulus Mayor Alan R. Lambert will give his annual "State of the City" Address at the Greater Romulus Chamber of Commerce's monthly business luncheon, to be held at the Best Western Gateway International Hotel (9191 Wickham, Romulus) on Tuesday, January 18, at 12 p.m.

Tickets (\$13 for Chamber members; \$15 for nonmembers) must be reserved by Friday, January 14. For more information, call the Chamber at 734-326-4290.

Pancake Breakfasts Benefit Kids in Need

Community Assistance Foundation 34 – an organization dedicated to assisting the families of needy children in the five communities (Romulus, Belleville, Huron, Sumpter, and Van Buren) served by the 34th District Court – will host Pancake Breakfast fund-raisers on the following Saturdays:

- January 15, 8 to 11 a.m.
(Romulus VFW Post #9658, 37920 Huron River Drive)
- January 29, 8 to 11 a.m.
(Huron Sportsmen's Club, 19835 Sterling, New Boston)

Tickets (\$6 for adults; \$4 for seniors and children 12 and under) are available in advance (call Paula at 734-941-4462, ext. 205) or at the door.

Improv Comedy Act Benefits Charity

Romulus Firefighters Local #4162 will present "Project 2" – an improv comedy troupe – at the Double Tree Hotel (31500 Wick Road, Romulus) on Saturday, January 22. Doors open at 7:15 p.m.; show begins at 8 p.m. Cash bar and snacks available.

Tickets are \$10 per person. All proceeds benefit charities supported by Romulus Firefighters Local #4126.

For more information, please visit www.project2improv.com, or call for tickets (734-722-6420 or 734-740-1194). □

Romak Will Run for Mayor in 2005

By Kristi Stephens

Romulus City Councilwoman Debbie Romak has announced that she will challenge incumbent mayor Alan R. Lambert for his seat on November 8, 2005.

The lifelong resident and 10-year council member says that she is ready and eager to take on a bigger role in local government.

"I have devoted most of my life to public service, and have a strong and committed desire to continue serving the people of Romulus as their next mayor," she told *The Romulus News*.

Romak believes that both her experience and her compassion make her uniquely qualified for the City's top administrative position.

"I understand the needs of my fellow citizens and the challenges that we face together," she said, "and I am dedicated and willing to take on those challenges for the benefit of our community."

According to Romak, one of her strongest assets is an ability to make solid fiscal decisions that would help to

shape the future of Romulus.

"Our economy is having devastating effects on our city and its residents," she explained. "Everywhere you look, both small and large businesses are fighting to stay open. Senior citizens are struggling to live on fixed incomes. High taxes, unemployment, substandard wages and benefits, and a rising cost of living are making it increasingly difficult for people to achieve basic goals such as owning a home. Shrinking budgets have led to reduced support of local charities such as food pantries. And steadily declining government revenues have meant significant cuts in important services.

"Now, more than ever, we need to make financially sound decisions," she continued. "We need to band together to help our neighbors through this difficult time."

Another of Romak's stated goals is to bring citizens back into the decision-making process.

"Every person has the right to speak out about issues that concern him or



Councilwoman Debbie Romak

her, and to have someone listen respectfully to those concerns," she said.

continued on page 14

Recognition Month Celebrates Board Members' Commitment to Romulus Children's Education



School Board Recognition Month celebrates the dedication and hard work of the members of the Romulus Community Schools Board of Education: (from left) front – Kenneth Mientkiewicz (treasurer), April Frayer (vice-president), Cheryl Buckley (president), and Celeste Roscoe (secretary); back – Thomas Kuderik (trustee), Betty Lenossi (trustee), and Niema White (trustee). (For story, please see page 3.)

Letters to the Editor

Residents Thanked for Holiday Generosity

To the Editor:

Once again, the people of Romulus demonstrated the true meaning of Christmas by giving to others in need. "Secret Santas" throughout the city opened their hearts and generously gave to the Helping Hand and Pat's Pantry, providing each with food and toys to help make

everyone's holidays merry and bright.

Romulus is a proud, caring community that outshines many others through pure and simple kindness, along with overwhelming generosity.

Thanks again, Secret Santas!
Councilwoman Debbie Romak
City of Romulus ☐

Guest Commentary

Romak: Ready for a New Challenge

By City Councilwoman Debbie Romak

Even before I announced that I will be running for mayor this November, I was often asked how and why I got into politics in the first place. I'd like to share a little of that story with my fellow citizens in the hope that it will give them a better understanding of who I am and what I stand for.

Ten years ago, when I was "just a mom," who would have ever thought that I would suddenly find myself running a grassroots campaign for an open Romulus City Council seat in the November 1995 election? Yet, despite the fact that it was my first time in the political arena, I placed second in the primary and fifth in the general election. From that day forward, I knew that I had deep aspirations to serve the public, and every election since has indicated the growing support that I have received from the electors of Romulus.

I will never forget the New Year's Eve telephone call I got from then-State Representative Greg Pitoniak (now the mayor of Taylor), asking if I would be interested in becoming a state representative and going to Lansing to work for the citizens of Romulus and Taylor. I was both honored and surprised, not to mention speechless. (Those who know me will attest to the fact that I am *rarely* speechless!) My eventual response: I'm just learning about local government; what makes you think that I'm ready to take on government at the state level? Besides, I told him, I have a very young family, and working in Lansing wouldn't be fair to my children or husband. A long time ago, I made a personal commitment to raise my family, *then* pursue my political ambitions. Greg assured me that he completely understood my reasons for refusal, but reminded me of the passion I had so far demonstrated for serving others.

Several years later, when I appeared at a public hearing to testify against a

proposed hazardous-waste injection well, I was approached by then-State Representative Kwame Kilpatrick (now the mayor of Detroit), who also spoke at the meeting. He shook my hand, told me that I had spirit and fire for the people, and said that I was needed in Lansing. Again, my passion and willingness to serve the public was confirmed.

In December 2001, I received a telephone call from then-Congresswoman Lynn Rivers, who asked if I would be interested in becoming her environmental liaison for the district. When I told her that I didn't have a degree in environmental science, she assured me that I had something better: passion, combined with outstanding grassroots leadership skills. In November 2002, due to redistricting, we lost a good congresswoman, but I will be forever grateful for the opportunity that she gave me to work in and learn so much about government on the federal level.

Now, in 2005, my grassroots campaign will again move forward. My personal commitment to raising my family has been fulfilled. I must say that it was a most rewarding experience to watch my two children become responsible, caring, compassionate young adults who are, at times, very vocal in expressing their opinions and views. Both graduated from Romulus High School, and are working part-time jobs while attending college. They are taking new paths and facing new challenges, and now I am ready to do the same.

For further information about my campaign to become the mayor of the City of Romulus, please visit my Website: www.romak2005.com.

* * *

Editor's note: The "Guest Commentary" column in The Romulus News is open to any responsible individual or spokesperson who would like to comment on issues of interest to the people who live and work in Romulus. ☐

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. 1929 – 1968

Past History, Present Reality

Please join us in celebration of

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
Monday, January 17, 2005

– **Schedule of Activities** –

Community March – 8:30 a.m.

Meet at Romulus Middle School – 8:00 a.m.

Pancake Breakfast – 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

High School Cafeteria

\$3.00 – Students & Seniors \$5.00 – Adults

All proceeds to RHS Athletic & Physical Education Depts.

MLK Celebration Program – 10:15 a.m.

High School Auditorium

(You do not have to march or buy breakfast to attend the program)

Make A Difference! Make A Donation!

Health & hygiene items will be collected and given to
Helping Hands

Please help Merriman Elementary School
on this service project for families in our community.
(Items may include: soap, shampoo, toothbrushes,
toothpaste, combs, deodorant, and wipes)

The Romulus News

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The Romulus News invites individuals and organizations to submit articles that may be of interest to its readers; however, *The Romulus News* is not responsible for the content of such articles, and the opinions and views expressed by the writers do not necessarily reflect the views of the editor or staff. *The Romulus News* reserves the right to edit any article submitted for publication; however, since material submitted for "Letters to the Editor," "Local Commentary," and similar columns may be printed verbatim, misspellings and grammar errors in these columns may be the responsibility of the writer, and not of the composition department of *The Romulus News*. All letters, commentaries, and other columns must be signed, and must include a telephone number so that their authenticity can be verified.

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The Romulus News will furnish "personal" (nonbusiness) advertisements, free of charge, to Romulus residents on a "space available" basis.

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Romulus Family Resource Center Opens at Burton Center

A new Family Resource Center that recently opened in the Burton Center, located on Beverly Road in Romulus, will provide a variety of useful resources to local families. The Center, opened by the Guidance Center of Southgate, will work in conjunction with the Head Start program, also housed at the Burton Center.

"The Center will be open to all Romulus families, in contrast to the Head Start program, which is income based," explained executive vice-president of administration Betty Priskorn. "We hope that local residents will be able to distinguish between the two programs, and will come in to take advantage of this outstanding educational opportunity."

According to Priskorn, the Guidance Center is a large organization that serves 20 different programs in the fields

of juvenile justice, mental health, and infant health care, in addition to the Head Start program. The Center has approximately 600 employees, with 200 involved at the various downriver Head Start sites.

State Senator Raymond E. Basham was happy that the Guidance Center received a grant that enabled the organization to open the Romulus Family Resource Center.

"I know that the people of Romulus will value this program highly, and I encourage them to make use of it," he said.

Noted Representative Hopgood, "Early educational training is the best investment a parent can make for any child, and I would ask parents to carefully consider bringing their children to this wonderful new facility."



Among those attending the opening of the Romulus Family Resource Center were: (from left) front – Betty Priskorn (executive vice-president of administration, The Guidance Center), Shari Stewart (director, Romulus Family Resource Center), and Cheryl Buckley (president, Romulus Community Schools Board of Education); back – Joel R. Carr (superintendent, RCS), State Senator Ray Basham, Sharman Spieser (coordinator, early childhood programs, RCS), State Representative Hoon-Yung Hopgood, and Bill Routhier (director of business and operations, RCS).

Romulus Board of Education "Builds a Brighter Future"

The month of January marks the annual observance of School Board Recognition Month – a time to salute the work of school board members and celebrate public education.

In keeping with the observance, the Michigan Board of Education recently passed a resolution praising local board members for "playing an important role in a representative democracy through the countless hours they invest in deliberating decisions concerning budgets, curriculum, personnel, and other matters that affect students, parents, teachers, and citizens throughout Michigan."

Governor Jennifer Granholm also offered a resolution that stated, "The character of our society, the richness of our culture, and the competitiveness of Michigan's economy all depend greatly upon the quality of instruction offered in Michigan's public schools."

Joel R. Carr, superintendent of the Romulus Community Schools, believes that Romulus Board of Education members truly exemplify this year's theme: "Building a Brighter Future for Children." For example, he says, under policies and curricula adopted by Board members, 240 Romulus High School graduates have won a combined \$600,000 in Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP) scholarships, and Romulus elementary schools have won \$110,000 in State of Michigan Golden Apple awards over the past five years.

Board policies have also developed strong parent-involvement programs such as the Student-Teacher-Parent Compac, which has resulted in 1,500 parent volunteers donating more than 10,200 hours of time to the district. A partnership with the Romulus Boys' and Girls' Club provides low-cost child care

weekdays until 8:30 p.m. for over 600 children from the community.

"We can be very proud of our district and the many accomplishments of our elected officials," said Carr. "Board policies have led to achievements such as our five-year North Central Association 'Transitions' accreditation for all district schools, and our outstanding district-wide initiatives in the areas of preschool, parent involvement, technology, curriculum, school climate, and health," he added.

Carr also complimented the Board for maintaining an excellent relationship with local residents.

"Our community support has enabled the Romulus school district to provide first-class facilities and state-of-the-art technology systems for all students. These facilities include over 2,000 high-speed computers for our student population of 4,200," he stated.

Board support has additionally helped Romulus students win awards at state-level competitions such as band festivals, athletic meets, and social studies/science Olympiads. The district has further distinguished itself, said Carr, by winning a prestigious Reading First grant and by establishing unique student-teaching programs with the University of Michigan and Western Michigan University.

"Our board of education has worked carefully with students, parents, teachers, and administrators to provide the leadership and policies to make these things happen," said Carr. "If you see a Board member around the community, please take a moment to thank him/her for all his/her diligent efforts to provide the very best educational opportunities for the children of Romulus." □



Also joining Stewart (second from right) and Spieser (second from left) at the opening were (from left) Tom Kuderik (trustee, RCS Board of Education), Carolyn O'Bannon (administrator, Romulus Head Start), and April Frayer (vice-president, RCS Board of Education).



Still others who took part in the opening along with Senator Basham (back), Priskorn, and Stewart (front, right and second from right, respectively) included: (from left) front – Adrian Sewell (assistant director, Head Start); back – Angela Pilarski (director, Head Start), Roxanne Brinkerhoff (director of family support services, Taylor), and Barb Tripp (staff member, Head Start).

Community Calendar

- **Fun & Fitness Day** – The Romulus Healthy Living Advisory Committee, the City of Romulus Department of Parks and Recreation, and PEN Enrichment Community Center are co-sponsoring a Fun & Fitness Day in the gymnasium at Romulus High School (9650 South Wayne Road) on Saturday, January 15, from 9 to 11 a.m. 30-minute activity blocks open to program participants will include swimming (one session, 9:30 to 10:30), basketball, volleyball, baseball batting cage, curves, aerobics, "pacer" running activity, and walking. Nutrition information will also be available. Guest speaker for the event will be Chris Russel of ChrisFit Fitness (9 to 9:15 a.m.). Cost is \$5 per person or \$15 per family. Register in the gym beginning at 8:30 a.m.
- **Little League Baseball Registrations** – Romulus Little League Baseball will hold its annual program registration at the Romulus Recreation Center (36515 Bibbins) on the following dates: Friday, January 14* (6 to 9 p.m.), Saturday, January 15* (10 a.m. to 2 p.m.), Friday, January 28 (6 to 9 p.m.), Saturday, January 29 (10 a.m. to 2 p.m.), Friday, February 4 (6 to 9 p.m.), Friday, February 11 (6 to 9 p.m.), Friday, February 18 (6 to 9 p.m.), Saturday, February 19, (10 a.m. to 2 p.m.), Friday, February 25 (6 to 9 p.m.), and Saturday, February 26 (10 a.m. to 2 p.m.). Registrations will be held for baseball (ages 5 to 18) and softball (ages 7 to 18) divisions. All registrations *must* be made by the player's parent or guardian, and all registrants *must* provide an original birth certificate, proof of residence (three forms), and registration fee at the time of registration. All participants will be required to sell two cases of candy or prepay an additional \$60. Registration fees: \$35 per child, or \$50 per family. For more information, call the Romulus Little League office: 734-955-6204. (*Early Bird dates: save \$5.)
- **"Ninepin Moonlight Bowling" Tournaments Raise Money for Little League** – The Romulus Little League will host a Ninepin Moonlight Bowling Tournament fund-raisers at Romulus Lanes on Friday, January 14, and Friday, January 28. Registration begins at 10:15 p.m.; bowling starts around 10:45 p.m. A cost of \$25 per player includes pizza and prizes. For more information, call the Little League office: 734-955-6204.
- **Mayor Lambert To Give "State of the City" Address at Chamber Luncheon** – Romulus Mayor Alan R. Lambert will give his annual "State of the City" Address at the Greater Romulus Chamber of Commerce's monthly business luncheon, to be held at the Best Western Gateway International Hotel (9191 Wickham, Romulus) on Tuesday, January 18, at 12 p.m. Tickets (\$13 for Chamber members; \$15 for nonmembers) must be reserved by Friday, January 14. For more information, call 734-326-4290.
- **Improv Comedy Show Benefits Charities** – Romulus Firefighters Local #4162 will present "Project 2" – an improv comedy troupe – at the Double Tree Hotel (31500 Wick Road, Romulus) on Saturday, January 22. Doors open at 7:15 p.m.; show begins at 8 p.m. Cash bar and snacks available. Tickets are \$10 per person. All proceeds benefit charities supported by Romulus Firefighters Local #4126. For further information, please visit www.project2improv.com, or call to purchase tickets (734-722-6420 or 734-740-1194).
- **Preschool Has Openings** – Huron Countryside Co-op Nursery – located at St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church (19109 Craig Street, New Boston) – currently has openings available in its three- and four-year-old classes. Children enrolled at the nursery are exposed to art, music, exercise, and field trips, and are encouraged in various skills such as verbal expression. For more information, call Julie Martin: 734-654-1356.
- **Grief Support Group Meets** – Crane Funeral Home (36885 Goddard Road, Romulus) offers free grief support group meetings and individual grief counseling to *all* who are in need. Aftercare meetings are scheduled for the second Sunday of each month (next meeting: February 13) from 2 to 3 p.m. For more information, call 734-941-9200.
- **New Life Baptist Church Welcomes You!** – Pastor Bill Hailes and the congregation of the New Life Baptist Church are inviting the public to attend weekly worship services on Sundays at 11 a.m. in the church's new home, located at 61 South Edgemont in Belleville. For more information, please call Pastor Hailes at 734-489-0054 or send an e-mail to smmajcgi2002.

To place information in our next issue's Community Calendar, mail it to "the little paper" at P.O. Box 74038, Romulus, MI 48174-0038; FAX it to us at 734-992-2052; or call 734-941-1907

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Mayor Lambert Presents Awards to "Anti-Drug Essay" Winners



Mayor Alan R. Lambert (third from right) congratulated Romulus Middle School essay winners (from left) Kayla Bondie, Megan Lawrence, Alexander Kilby, Tiffany Rideout, and Dominique Walker.



Mayor Lambert (back, third from left) was proud to share lunch with Romulus High School's essay winners, including: (from left) front – Chris Avery, Jakarah Todd, and Regina Nelson; back – De'Jarnice Blakely, Stacy Fabinski, LaJoya Rush, Mara Thompson, Tranay Tanner, and Ayibatari Burutolu.

Romulus Mayor Alan R. Lambert was pleased to present awards to the winners of an annual anti-drug essay contest sponsored by the Romulus Mayor's Drug Task Force. Contest winners from both Romulus High School and Romulus Middle School received their awards from Mayor Lambert during luncheon programs that were held at Romulus High School's Eagle's Nest Restaurant.

Lambert told the students, "I am very impressed with your work and the seriousness of purpose that you displayed throughout your essays. It shows that our community awareness programs are working, and that you are each making good choices about your futures."

Lambert's remarks and the presentation of certificates were recorded by City of Romulus video technicians for future cable programming.

The Romulus Mayor's Drug Task Force supports the essay programs for local children each year, and provides funds for both the introductory assemblies and the awards for winning students from the High School, Middle School, and all six elementaries in the Romulus Community Schools. □



Romulus Middle School students who composed outstanding essays for the contest included: (from left) front – Alex Kilby, John Lewkowicz, Dominique Walker, Briannni Taylor, Grant Dupree, Megan Lawrence, Tiffany Rideout, and Erica Herren; middle – David Ellis, Kayla Bondie, Sierra Gilbert, Nadia Watson, Victoria Newell, Christina Gillespie, Breonn Stephens, Sheila Watts, Caitlyn Lefler, Samantha Bankey, and Christine Ames; back – Ashley Jensen, Niko Scott, Sheila Reeves, Tanesha Hill-Harris, Hailey Mangrum, Joshua Saltmarsh, Zach Nastal, and Kyle Linderman.

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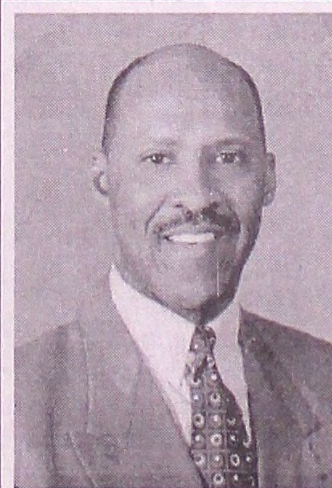
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Happy New Year!

Wishing you good fortune, happiness, and more in the year 2005.

Have a great year and many thanks for the privilege of serving you.

Randy Gear

Mayor Pro Tem, City of Romulus

RHS National Honor Society "Writes Out Cancer" for St. Jude

Twenty-three National Honor Society students from Romulus High School recently spent an afternoon writing out and addressing letters to their relatives, friends, and neighbors on behalf of the cancer research program at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

The letter-writing party was one of hundreds hosted by NHS chapters across the nation to benefit this worthy cause.

"Each student was responsible for writing at least 20 letters, asking recipients to make a donation toward finding cures for cancer," said RHS National Honor Society advisor Alberta Garrett. "Altogether, Romulus members composed more than 500 letters."

"The funds raised by this campaign will help to defray costs for children's medical services that are not covered by their families' insurance programs," she added.

Garrett had a special thank-you for each of the NHS members who took part in the program, as well as for the RHS School Store, which donated pizza, salad, and pop to treat the letter-writers as they worked.

Garrett also said that, as a token of appreciation for their efforts, each of the 23 students who participated in the letter-writing campaign received a T-shirt from St. Jude Children's Hospital. □



Romulus High School National Honor Society members who wrote letters to solicit donations for St. Jude Children's Hospital included: (from left) front – Crystal Hahn, Bradley Bills, Janet Johnson, Chrystal Coleman, Krystle McKay, Megan Whalen, Jazmine Bennett, Megan Bearman, and Jennifer Lammers; middle – Sawaira Sheikh, Tiffany Motsch, Ashlee Wells, Ashley Moss, Brytni White, LaShonda Whitehead, Mallori Losacco, and Adam Delay; back – Shauntya Simon, Amber Gondek, Daniel Kinney, Ron Brown, Kristine Plank, and Carla Anderson.

RHS Eagles Varsity Basketball Team Off to 7-1 Start



With its only loss occurring against nationally ranked Lawrence North of Indianapolis, Indiana, the Romulus High School Eagles varsity basketball team is off to a fine start. Team members include: (from left) front – Kevin Smith, Dominique Buckley, Danté Williams, and Anthony Price; middle – Steve Glenn (assistant coach), Geryn Reese, Jerrett Smith, Avery Stephenson, Antoine Burrell, and Brendon Glenn; back – Dwight Talley, James Bell, Devin Searcy, Louis Perry, Jason Gibson, Josh Baker (assistant coach), and Nate Oats (head coach).

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Local Schools' Holiday Concerts Helped Spread Seasonal Spirit

Dick Kruse, spokesperson for the Romulus Community Schools, was proud to report that the district's annual holiday concerts were a big success.

"Parents and other community members have been very supportive of Romulus children for many years," said Kruse. "Nowhere is this enthusiasm and dedication more evident than at our schools' holiday programs.

"When I came to Romulus in 1966," the former band director and music department head recalled, "every Christmas program was performed before a full house, with a standing-room-only

audience. Now, 39 years later, our parents and community still continue to give this wonderful encouragement to their children by attending the concerts.

"It's great to see everyone in a festive mood, and have this outstanding tradition continue in Romulus," he concluded.

Last month's seasonal programs featured bands, choirs, and dance groups from Romulus High School and Romulus Middle School as well as the district's six elementaries. Many of the programs were videotaped and aired on the district's cable TV channel (19) during the holiday break. □



In a festive mood after performing in their holiday concert were Cory Elementary School's band students, including: (from left) front – Jonathan Stone, Pamela Johnson, Valerie Crawford, and Kaessi Torres; second row – Olivia Madison, Brittney Hillard, Devan Hearst, and Kaylia Davison; third row – Kahrah Noel and Tiffany Cummings; back – Adrian Barden, Jordan Ditsch, Faith Rhinhart, Breanna Pope, Chyanna Ballard, and Briana Batchelor. (For more photos, see pages 8 and 9.)

Snowflake Dance



Festively dressed for Romulus Elementary School's annual Snowflake Dance were: (from left) front – Alejandra Wells, Jada Brown, Abigail Nemeth, Brianna Madison, Savannah Edwards, and Madison Alexander; middle – Jessica Brown, Junae Harville, Chelsea Smith, and Cydnee Kidd; back – Keeyna Stephens, Wesley Stephens, Lazonja Smith, and Erik Slubowski.



Also attending the dance were: (from left) front – Felicity Podpora, Briana Cotrell, Cyndil Banks, Monica Podpora, Xzaeria Wafer, Camaria Wafer, Shyla Killen, and Kiara Thompson; back – parent organizers Tolima Pacheco, Mickey Ellis, and Lazonja Smith.

Drama Club Shines in Spaces

The Romulus High School Drama Club's recent production of *Spaces*, a collection of four short original plays, was well received by an appreciative audience. The plays, directed by language-arts teacher Monica Lewis, were performed in the RHS auditorium the weekend of December 10–12, 2004.

According to Lewis, the production had its genesis in a contest for one-act plays written by students.

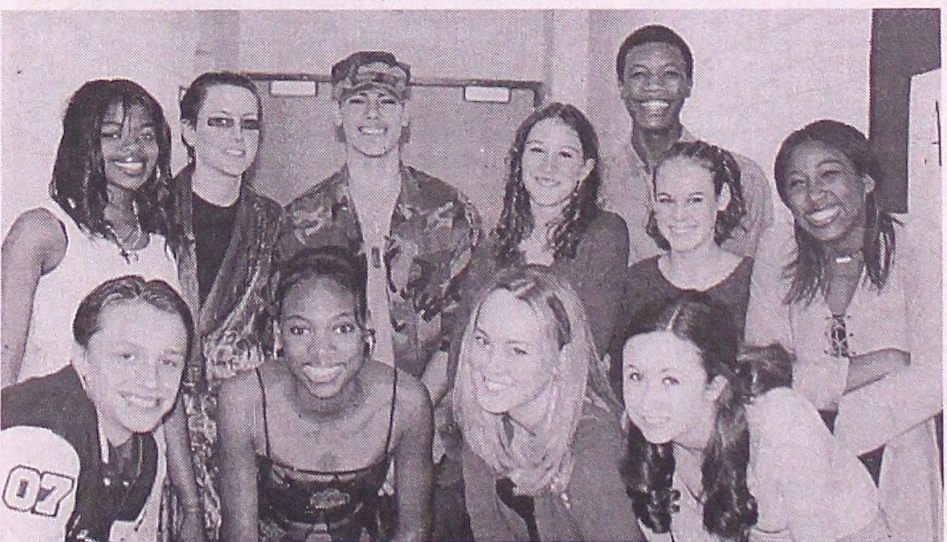
"The winning entries were 'Regrets' by Jasmine Theriox, 'Hell Has a Waiting Room,' by Shauntia Simon, and 'Saving Mary,' by Sara Hurt," she explained. "Those three plays were combined with 'Awkward Moments' [a play written by Lewis's husband, Matthew Lewis] to produce *Spaces*."

Lewis was proud of the performance.

"Our actors were certainly well prepared," she stated. "The program showed off their talents in acting as well as creative composition."

Lewis had thanks for her parent helpers (Mesdames Hurt, Lammers, and Simon) as well as Language Arts Department members Jason Kahler and Serena Kessler for their outstanding support. She also thanked Johnston Lithograph of Romulus for donating the tickets and the printing for the program.

RHS Drama Club performers and set crew members were: Megan Bearman, James Blanton, Alicia Bracy, Kerri Britz, Tiffany Conradson, Dekarele Eldridge, Elizabeth Hardoin, Sara Hurt, Audra Howard, Jennifer Lammers, Garrett Lefler, Eric Rister, Kyle Sherwood, Shauntia Simon, and Kevin Strobbe. □



Leading actors in the RHS Drama Club's recent production of *Spaces* included: (from left) front – James Blanton, Alisa James, Megan Bearman, and Audra Howard; back – Ebony Coleman, Kevin Strobbe, Eric Rister, Kerri Britz, Dekarele Eldridge, Elizabeth Hardoin, and Alicia Bracey.

Holiday Concerts



All smiles before performing in their annual holiday concert were members of the Romulus High School choir: (from left) front – Tatiana Gray, Carrie Hampton, LaJoya Rush, and Jakali McClendon; back – Adrian Pitts, Patrice Harris, Anjelique Moss, and Amber Pouncy.



Among the Romulus Middle School choir members who performed in their holiday concert were: (from left) front – Christian Linton, Olivia Miller, Courtney Blakeney, Alvita Shack, and Amber Sears; back – Cheldan Gober, Mark Proctor, James Fox, and Edward Derengowski.



Giving an excellent performance were the RHS Symphonic Band's first-chair players: (from left) Jazmine Bennett (flute), Samantha Lipkowski (French horn), Brian Rodger (trombone), Mario Clark (percussion), Cecily Ricer (baritone sax), and Jessica Donald (clarinet).



Nattily attired for their concert performance were members of the Middle School Symphonic Band, including (from left) Melissa Griffith, Kayla Dizney, Emily Davis, Kaela Torres, Melissa Dufore, Ciara Turner, Krystal Wegrzyn, and Lakaiya Goodwin.



Dancing in the High School's holiday program were: (from left) front – Ja'Mesha Grandberry and Valencia Mathews; middle – Shamara Hill-Harris, Carmen Collie, Jasmine Kendrick, Alexis Newsome, and Sheerce Miller; back – Phillip Warren, Damian Williams-McLain, and Darwin Harris.



Merriman Elementary students who played song flutes for their holiday concert included: (from left) front – Katlyn Crowell, Kyle Stevens, and Dominic Pena; back – Rebecca Nowicki, Kendrick Kemp, Alexis McGraw, Chris Williams, and Brandi Smith.

Holiday Concerts



Barth Elementary School Concert Band members – including (from left) Briana McVay, Dakota Kirtley, Marissa Hicks, Eddie Colquitt, Caitlyn Britz, Spencer DeFelice, and Rachel Stafford – gave a good performance.



Among the students who sang in Barth's annual holiday concert were (from left) Clare Freeman, Jamesha Kirkland, Alexis Page, and Adrian Malok.



Halecreek Elementary School students who sang in their annual holiday concert included (from left) Kirstye MacDonald, Kate Orr, Zharia Newton, Kilah Stewart, Sean McCormick, Kewan Williams, and Tyler Bondie.



(From left) Joanna Rogers, Crystal Poet, Stephanie Kilgore, Selena Masters, Tiffany Eldrington, Stephanie Andrew, and Sarah Orr were among the Halecreek band students performing in the concert.



(From left) Carmen Plank, Kaela Williams, Ashley Cribbs, Jessica Jones, Brittany Francis, and Junae Harville were among those who performed in the Romulus Elementary/Wick Elementary Advanced Band's holiday concert.



The Romulus Elementary/Wick Elementary Beginners' Band featured a big trombone section. The performers included: (from left) front – James Newbill, Jerry McCray, Malik Lewis, and Clifton Boddie; back – Joshua Sands, Fred McAnally, Tiffany Brown, Eric Trout, and Chance Armstrong.

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ROMULUS COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

36540 Grant Road, Romulus, Michigan 48174

REGULAR MEETING, DECEMBER 13, 2004

The Regular Meeting of the Romulus Board of Education held on Monday, December 13, 2004, was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by President Cheryle Buckley.

Roll call showed members Buckley, April Frayer, Celeste Roscoe, Kenneth Mientkiewicz, Betty Lenossi, Niema White, and Thomas Kuderik present. Administrators present were: Joel R. Carr, Superintendent; William Routhier, Director of Business and Operations; Ed Clark, Director of Human Resources; and Tom Dolan, Director of Curriculum.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Buckley.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

12/04/1 Moved by White supported by Frayer to approve the Agenda as presented. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

12/04/2 Moved by Lenossi supported by White to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 22, 2004, as presented. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:

Personnel Actions

Mr. Edward Clark, Director of Human Resources, offered the following personnel actions for Board approval.

EMPLOYMENT: Stephen Wheeler, Mathematics Teacher, Community High School, effective November 16, 2004.

12/04/3 Moved by Mientkiewicz supported by Lenossi to approve the personnel actions as offered by Mr. Edward Clark, Director of Human Resources. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

FYI – EMPLOYMENT: Gary Andreone, Bus Aide, Transportation Department, effective November 22, 2004; and Cheryl Bowen, French Fryer, Romulus High School, effective December 13, 2004.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE: Laurie Berlin (Educational Leave), Media Technician, Halecreek Elementary School, effective January 10, 2005 – April 29, 2005; and Diane Zimkiewicz (Educational Leave), Resource Teacher, Barth Elementary School, effective January 3, 2005 – June 17, 2005.

RETIREMENT: Patricia Sprinkle, Custodian "A", Barth Elementary School, last day paid: December 15, 2004 (half day).

RESIGNATION: Abbie Akins, Head Bookkeeper, Board of Education, effective December 10, 2004.

Video Technician Settlement Agreement

12/04/4 Moved by White supported by Kuderik that the Board of Education accept the recommendation of Mr. Joel R. Carr, Superintendent, and approve a Settlement Agreement with Local 64, Council 25, AFSCME, for the classification of Video Technician. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Bills for Payment

12/04/5 Moved by Mientkiewicz supported by Kuderik to approve the Bills for Payment as presented by Mr. William Routhier, Director of Business and Operations. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Presentation: Winter Sports – Mark Woodson

Mr. Mark Woodson, Athletic Director for the Romulus Community Schools, introduced winter sports coaches to the Board. Physical-education teachers were present to update the Board of Education on the district-wide physical-education program. He informed the Board that the High School will be hosting a Healthy Living event – covering sports like volleyball, basketball, and wrestling – on January 15, 2005. He also stated that Sport Camps will be held for eleven different sports the week of June 20–24, 2005.

High School Field Trip – Washington, D.C.

12/04/6 Moved by White supported by Frayer that the Board of Education approve the A.P. Government field trip to Washington, D.C., as per the attached sheet. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

"Point of Sale" Equipment – Cafeteria

12/04/7 Moved by Mientkiewicz supported by Lenossi that the Board of Education approve the Finance Committee's recommendation to purchase "Point of Sale" software for Food Service Operation for the district. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Bus Purchase – FYI

Mr. William Routhier, Director of Business and Operations, stated that the district desperately needs to replace five buses and two medium-duty pickup trucks. We will use the State MSBO bid process for our bus purchase needs and local vendors to purchase the trucks. He stated that the Financial Department will provide the actual bids received at a later date. He further stated that cost recommendations, if approved, would then be incorporated into the General Fund final budget presentation in April 2005.

Communications and Expressions from the Public

There were none.

Items of Interest from the Superintendent

Mr. Joel R. Carr, Superintendent, shared the following items of interest with members of the Board of Education: 1) Congratulations – Infusion Bowl; 2) Thank You – Wick Meet 'n' Eat – Debbie Juriga; 3) Congratulations – Girls' Basketball Team; 4) Healthful Living Grant; 5) Barth School Newsletter; 6) Halecreek Parent Newsletter; 7) Merriman Parent Newsletter; 8) Romulus Elementary Parent Newsletter; 9) Wick Parent Newsletter; and 10) Romulus High School Parent Newsletter.

QUESTIONS AND/OR CONCERNS OF BOARD MEMBERS:

Mrs. Niema White had a question on the Edsel Ford workshop. Mr. Carr, Superintendent, explained. Mrs. White also stated that the Tri County Alliance's next meeting is January 12, 2005, at 6:30 p.m. in the Media Center at the High School. She further stated that the Early Childhood Committee has completed the video for early childhood development.

Mrs. April Frayer invited everyone to attend the Open House for the new Guidance Center on Wednesday, December 15, at the Burton Center.

Mr. Kenneth Mientkiewicz asked if we have added employees to the lunch, as there is a request in for more staff.

Mr. Thomas Kuderik stated that the Meet 'n' Eat Program at Wick was great. He also stated that the band concerts at Wick and the Middle School were excellent. Mr. Kuderik further stated that the Technology Committee is making great progress.

Mrs. Celeste Roscoe congratulated the Girls' Basketball Team.

Mrs. Betty Lenossi advised the Board of Education that flu shots would be available at the Romulus Senior Center on Monday, December 20, for \$20. Folks must call 734-955-4120 to make an appointment.

Mrs. Cheryle Buckley wished Happy Holidays to all.

ADJOURNMENT:

12/4/8 Moved by Lenossi supported by Kuderik that the Meeting be adjourned. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

The Meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Celeste Roscoe, Secretary
Romulus Board of Education

Huron School District

**Announces Limited "School of Choice" Vacancies
for the 2nd Semester of the 2004-2005 School Year
Open Enrollment until January 17, 2005**

Huron Schools Are NCA (North Central Association) Accredited

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Auto Body	Business Services	Heating/Ventilation/Cooling
Electronics	Dental Occupations	Cabinet & Furniture Making
Graphic Arts	Health Occupations	Video/Applied Communications
Cosmetology	Child Care Services	Construction/Building
Manufacturing	Construction Trades	Maintenance

ARTS AND ACTIVITIES:

- Marching Band and Concert Band • Award-winning Yearbook
- Fine Arts Class in Junior High and High School
- National Honor Society • Outdoor Challenge • Quiz Bowl
- Drama Performance: Technical Theatre Program

ATHLETICS:

Hockey	Swimming	Volleyball
Football	Boys' Track	Softball
Baseball	Wrestling	Girls' Golf
Boys' Golf	Cross Country	Girls' Soccer
Boys' Soccer	Girls' Basketball	Equestrian
Boys' Basketball	Competitive Cheer	Girls' Track

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2nd Grade	1 Space Available
3rd Grade	3 Spaces Available
4th Grade	4 Spaces Available
5th Grade	4 Spaces Available

Renton Junior High
(734) 782-2483

NO VACANCIES

Huron High School
(734) 782-1436

9th Grade	5 Spaces Available
10th Grade	5 Spaces Available
11th Grade	5 Spaces Available
12th Grade	5 Spaces Available

Miller Elementary School
(734) 753-4421

1st Grade	3 Spaces Available
2nd Grade	3 Spaces Available
3rd Grade	0 Spaces Available
4th Grade	3 Spaces Available
5th Grade	2 Spaces Available

Sunnyside Kindergarten Center
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NO VACANCIES

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**Huron School District ...
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Archway Employees Donate Clothing, Games to Needy



Wick Elementary School principal Debbie Juriga (back, center) thanked Archway Marketing Services employees (from left) Bob Stone (general manager), Scott Geering (telecom analyst), Stephanie Ayalls (billing), Dawn Portwood (materials coordinator), and Leann Steffes (programmer) for the coats, hats, mittens, and games they donated to needy families.

Employees from Archway Marketing Services' Romulus facility on Cogswell Road recently donated significant amounts of clothing and games to needy local families. General manager Bob Stone was pleased to have several of his employees accompany him to Wick

Elementary, where they presented their goods to principal Debbie Juriga.

"Our employees felt really good about doing something like this," said Stone. "Everybody pulled together, and we got the true spirit of Christmas giving going strong." □

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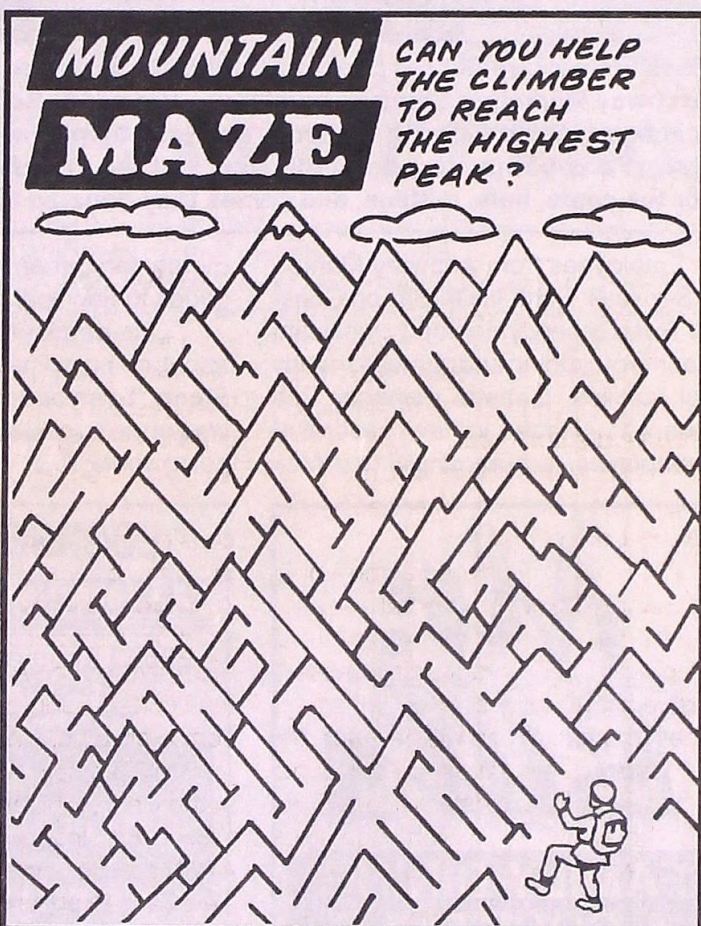
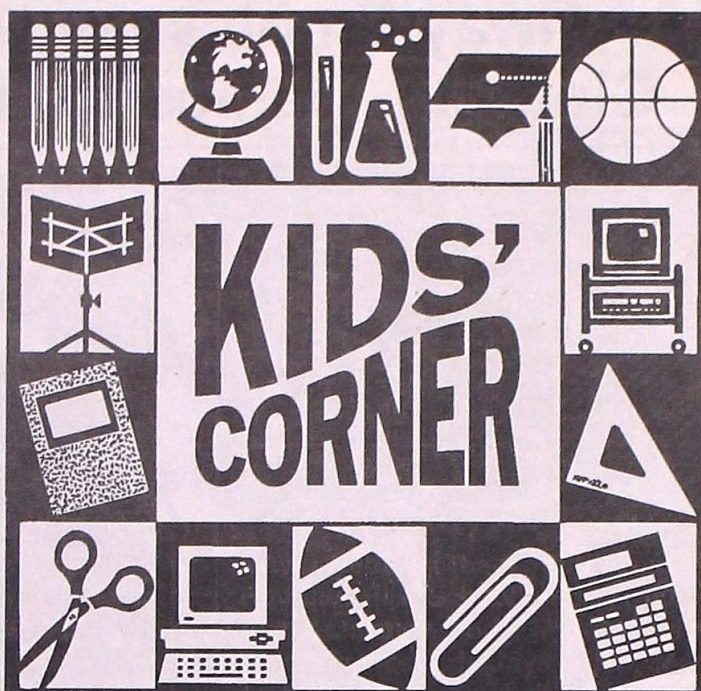
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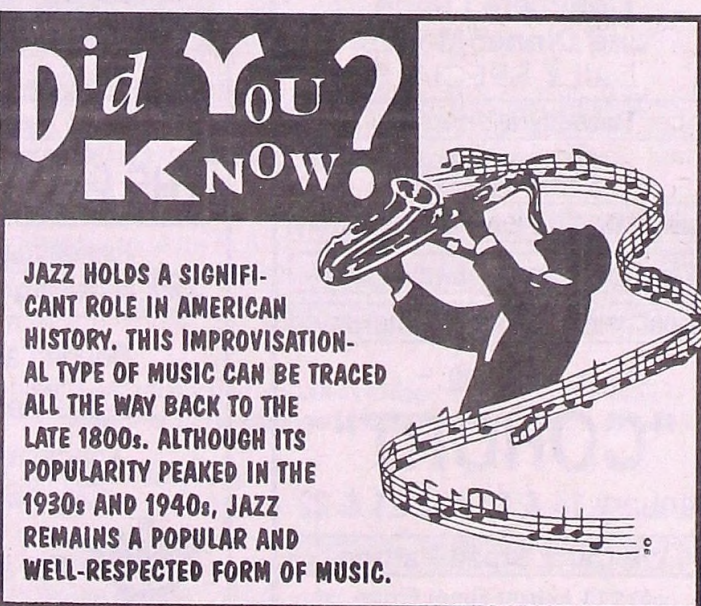
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K1940009



K1040011

Are you sure it's the cure?

Over the years, many cures have been invented to combat deadly diseases. There are six sentences below. They list the disease and what medication is given to treat or cure it.

If you believe the statement is true, write a "T" next to it. If you think the information is false, put down an "F."

1. Insulin is often given to diabetics.
2. Antihistamines cure rheumatism sufferers.
3. Chemotherapy is often given to cancer patients.
4. Quinine has been used on Malaria victims.
5. Anti-fungal drugs are good for colds.
6. If you have the flu, a fever or a cold, bed-rest and lots of fluids will help your condition.

Answers
1. True 2. False 3. True 4. True 5. False 6. True

Inventors and their inventions

Everyday conveniences were all invented by someone. See if you can guess who invented what. Draw a line from the inventor to the invention.

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Ball-point pen | A. Leonardo da Vinci |
| 2. Submarine | B. Joseph Niepce |
| 3. Photography | C. Boeing |
| 4. Refrigeration | D. Cornelis Drebbel |
| 5. The first moon vehicle, the Lunar Rover | E. Lazlo Biro, a Hungarian journalist |
| 6. The first to think of the contact lens | F. William Cullen |
| 7. Electron microscope | G. James Hillier and Albert Prebus |

Answers
1. E 2. D 3. B 4. F 5. C 6. A 7. G

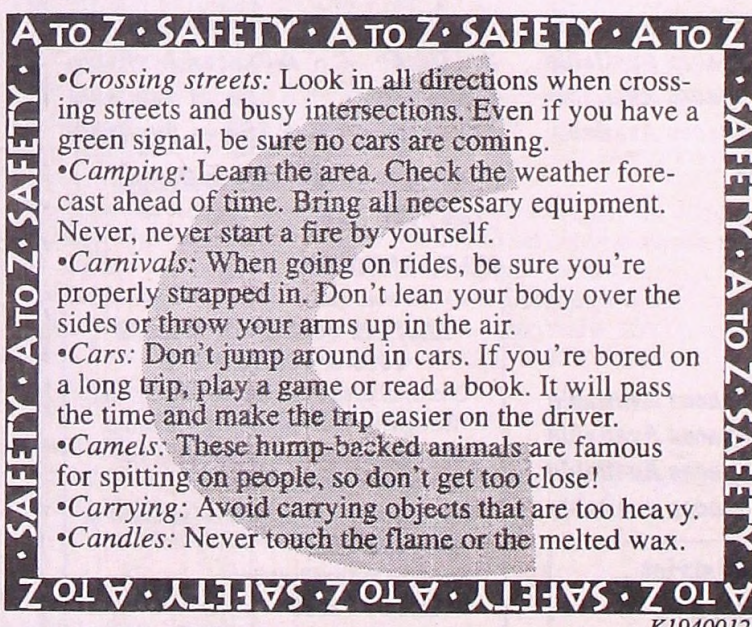
Greek preview

How much do you know about Ancient Greece? Answer "True" or "False" after each statement.

1. Prior to 650 B.C., the people of Greece used no money. Instead, they bartered.
2. Units of length were the finger and foot.
3. There were 16 fingers to a foot.
4. The usual coins were the lira and gold.
5. A talent was a unit of weight.
6. The Greeks ate only wheat.
7. Greece was originally located in Africa.

Answers
1. True 2. True 3. True 4. False 5. True 6. False 7. False

K1940010



K1040017



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Sassy Seniors

By Mary E. Clark

Special thanks to Linda Norman, senior citizens program coordinator for the City of Romulus Department of Parks and Recreation, for contributing information to this issue's "Sassy Seniors" column. (For more information about events at Romulus Senior Center, located at 36515 Bibbins, call 734-955-4120.)

Free Tax Preparation

From 12:30 to 3 p.m. each Wednesday between February 2 and April 13, the Romulus Senior Center will be offering free tax preparation services (by appointment only) to low-income Romulus seniors (age 60 and older). The service will also be available at Romulus Tower and Whispering Willows.

A list of materials which must be brought to the appointment will be provided at the time of registration. These materials will include:

- W-2 forms,
- Unemployment compensation statements,
- SSA-1099 interest/dividends statements,
- 1099R pension/annuity statements,
- forms showing income taxes paid,
- last year's tax forms.

For more information, or to make an appointment, call or stop in at the Center.

January Luncheon

This month's luncheon at the Romulus Senior Center will be held on Friday, January 21, at 1 p.m. A menu of chili, crackers, beverage, and dessert will reflect the luncheon's "South of the Border" theme. Prizes will be awarded for the most colorful Western outfit and the most authentic Western outfit. Tickets for the event are \$2 each. Sign up at the Center to reserve your seat.

Red Hat Society Meets

The Romulus Senior Center is now an official member of Red Hat Society Chapter #40741. The group's next gathering will be held at Romulus Lanes, where participants will enjoy Chair Bumper Bowling followed by lunch at Michael B's Bar & Grill.

For more information, please e-mail romulusredhatsociety@yahoo.com or call the Center.

Senior-citizen Clubs

Local senior citizens looking to make new friends are invited to join one or both of the clubs that meet at the Romulus Senior Center on a regular basis.

Club #1, which gets together each Tuesday at 11 a.m., holds potlucks, "does lunch" at area restaurants, hosts parties, plays bingo and other games, and schedules seasonal outings.

The Romulus Senior Social Club, a relatively new group that's continuing to grow, meets at 2 p.m. on the second Friday of each month. Yearly dues of \$5 help cover costs related to special trips, parties, and other events.

For more information about either of these groups, call the Senior Center.

Regular Programs

Besides the many special activities offered at the Romulus Senior Center, a number of regularly scheduled free or low-cost programs are also open to local senior citizens.

They include:

- ceramics (Mondays, 12:30 p.m.),
- Club One (Tuesdays, 11 a.m.),
- bunco (Tuesdays, 1 p.m.),
- bingo (Wednesdays, 1 p.m.),
- "fun night" (Wednesdays, 5 p.m.),
- pinochle (Thursdays, 12:30 p.m.),
- "game day" (Thursdays, 1 to 3 p.m.), and
- quilting (Thursdays, 7 p.m.).

Walk for Your Health

Ride the Senior Center's van to Wayne County Community College's Western Campus each Monday and Wednesday at 2 p.m. for an hour of safe indoor walking at your own pace. Sign up at the Center to reserve your seat.

The Center strongly urges anyone considering a change in his/her exercise program to consult a doctor beforehand.

Ask the Attorney

Local attorney Steve Robinson's monthly "Ask the Attorney" program – a free consultation service for Romulus senior citizens – has been scheduled for 3 to 5 p.m. on Tuesday, January 25, at the Center. As always, both walk-ins (36515 Bibbins) and call-ins (734-955-4120) are welcome.

TeleCare Program Available

The Romulus Senior Center's TeleCare program provides seniors with daily phone reassurance at no cost. To learn more, call the Center's friendly staff.

Annual Registration for Commodities

Current commodities recipients who have not yet completed their annual registration at the Senior Center should do so as soon as possible. Just bring in your proof of income to demonstrate your continuing eligibility for the program.

Commodities are distributed on the third Thursday of each month to qualified Romulus residents.

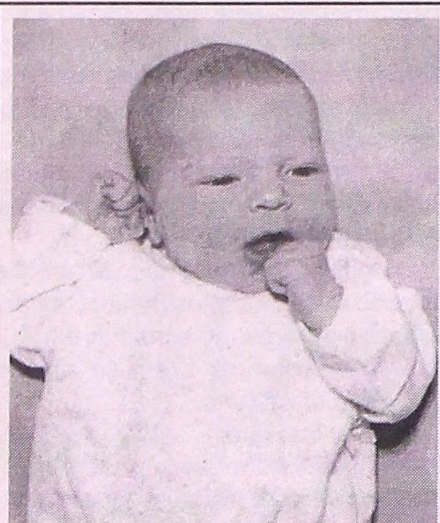
Hot Lunches

Just a reminder that the Romulus Senior Center serves a hot lunch at 11:30 a.m. each weekday for only \$1.75. Call at least 24 hours in advance to make your reservation. □

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"committed to protecting Michigan's environment"

The Stork Arrived

Morgan Adelle Evans



Morgan Adelle Evans

Ryan and Jaime Evans of Romulus, Michigan, are proud to announce the birth of their new daughter, Morgan Adelle Evans.

Morgan was born in University of Michigan Hospital (Ann Arbor, MI) at 4:11 p.m. on Tuesday, November 16, 2004, weighing 9 lbs., 4 oz., and measuring 22 in. in length.

Especially excited about the new arrival was her big sister, Christa (17 months old).

Also giving Morgan a warm welcome into the family were her paternal grandparents, Richard and Joyce Evans (Romulus, MI), as well as her maternal grandparents, Richard and Sandy Doherty (Canton, MI).

Isabelle Grace Patterson

Proudly announcing the birth of their new daughter, Isabelle Grace Patterson, are Christopher and Nicole Patterson of Romulus, Michigan.

Isabelle was born in University of Michigan Hospital (Ann Arbor, MI) at 3:55 a.m. on Wednesday, November 17, 2004, weighing 8 lbs., 7 oz., and measuring 20.5 in. in length.

Especially excited about the new arrival were her older siblings, Jacob and Emma.



Isabelle Grace Patterson

Chloé Ann Shirey

Paul and Annie (Carter) Shirey of Taylor, Michigan, are proud to announce the birth of their new daughter, Chloé Ann Shirey, whom they describe as "a wonderful baby girl – a precious gift from Heaven above."

Chloé was born in Garden City Hospital at 10:03 a.m. on Monday, October 4, 2004, weighing 7 lbs. and measuring 19.5 in. in length.

Among those giving the new arrival a warm welcome into the family were her paternal grandparents, John and Micki Shirey (Dearborn Heights, MI), as well as her maternal grandparents, Tom Carter (Taylor, MI) and Peggy Carter (Romulus, MI). □



Chloé Ann Shirey

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WANTED! WANTED!

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Must be in mint condition.

Call 734-992-2049

Obituaries

Willard Henry "Dude" Earle

Willard Henry "Dude" Earle of Romulus, Michigan, passed away on Saturday, January 8, 2005, at the age of 92.

The native of River Rouge, Michigan, was born on Tuesday, June 18, 1912.

Willard, a Henry Ford Trade School alumnus, retired from the Ford Motor Company's Rouge facility in 1971. He enjoyed working around the house and traveling.

Surviving Willard are a daughter, Mary Ann (Richard) Wildman (Loveland, CO); 2 sons, Daniel (Nancy) Earle (Ann Arbor, MI) and Michael Earle; a brother, Richard A. Earle

(Spring Hill, FL); 4 grandchildren, Scott, Brian, Daniel, and Betsey; and 4 great-grandchildren, Rachael, Susan, Alex, and Jacob.

Among those who preceded him in passing were his parents, William and Jennie (VanWicklen) Earle; his wife, Mary Earle (October 16, 2003); and two brothers, Howard Earle (1996) and Edsel Earle (1981).

A funeral service was held on Wednesday, January 12, at Crane Funeral Home (Romulus), with Father Alexander Wytrwal (St. Stephen Catholic Church, New Boston, MI) officiating.

Cremation rites were accorded.

Marguerite Lucile Silvey

Marguerite Lucile Silvey of Taylor, Michigan, passed away on Tuesday, December 21, 2004, at the age of 91.

The native of Detroit, Michigan, was born on Thursday, July 24, 1913.

Marguerite – a former resident of both Lewiston, Michigan, and Romulus, Michigan – was a former bus driver for the Lewiston Public Schools and, later, the Romulus Community Schools (from which she retired in 1967). A member of the Community United Methodist Church of Romulus, she had previously belonged to Lewiston's Congregational United Church of Christ, and was formerly active in the PTA at Texas Elementary School (Romulus).

Surviving Marguerite are 2 sons, Gordon C. (Wanda) Silvey and James

Lee (Rose) Silvey (both of Romulus); 8 grandchildren; 18 great-grandchildren; and 5 great-great-grandchildren.

Among those who predeceased her were her parents, Menzo and Ella (McGee) Leete; her husband, Richard Silvey (1977); and a brother, Fred Sollitt.

A funeral service was held on Thursday, December 30, at Community United Methodist Church, with Reverend William Kren officiating. Interment was at Michigan Memorial Park (Flat Rock). Arrangements were entrusted to David C. Brown Funeral Home (Belleville, MI).

Memorial tributes to the Vision 2000 Building Fund at Community United Methodist Church would be greatly appreciated by the Silvey family. □

Romak Announces Bid for Mayor's Seat

continued from page 1

"Public input regarding our city's short- and long-term goals is essential if we are going to build a community that meets people's needs.

"Citizens should be encouraged to exercise their civil liberties, such as the right to petition for public referendum, not discouraged or intimidated."

Romak cites the following accomplishments with pride.

- a decade of service on the Romulus City Council, including four years as chairwoman pro tem;
- involvement with the City's Master Plan Steering Committee;
- service as the Romulus City Council's Planning Commission representative and environmental liaison;
- service as an environmental liaison to former U.S. Congresswoman Lynn Rivers;

- volunteer work with local charities such as the American Progressive Association and the Romulus Goodfellows organization;
- involvement with community groups such as the Compensation Review Board, the Barth Elementary School PTA (of which she is a former vice-president), and the Romulus Pumpkin Festival Committee; and
- receipt of various honors, including the Michigan Environmental Council's 2001 Petoskey Prize (including a gift of \$5,000 to the environmental charity of Romak's choice) for outstanding grassroots leadership, and the South East Michigan Coalition on Occupational Safety and Health award for protecting working men and women.

For more information on Romak's campaign, visit www.romak2005.com. □

Familiar Faces Lost

Freda M. Crova



Freda Crova made her mark on Romulus as the fire department's first dispatcher.

Freda M. Crova of Romulus, Michigan, passed away on Sunday, January 2, 2005, at the age of 86.

The daughter of John and Mary (Robakiewicz) Zakolski was born in Huron Township, Michigan, on Saturday, June 8, 1918.

Freda was both well-known and well-loved in the Romulus community. Her husband, Joseph John Crova, was the fire chief of Romulus Township (1941-1970) and the City of Romulus (1970-1972) for more than 30 years – and, throughout his tenure, she was always there to help him. Chief Crova's job made him responsible for answering emergency calls around the clock, so those calls were transferred to his home during his off-duty hours. But if he was away from both the department and home, it was Freda who took care of the dispatching duties as a matter of course.

She was also a familiar figure to those who patronized the family business, Crova's Sales & Service, which she co-owned and operated with her husband.

Freda, a past president of the Altar Society at St. Aloysius Catholic Church (Romulus), was an active member of the church's Festival Committee. She was also an avid reader.

Surviving Freda are 2 sons, William A. "Bill" (Carol) Crova and John J. (Sharon) Crova (all of Romulus); a brother George Zakoiski (Stanton, MI); 4 grandchildren, Joseph, James, Mary, and Karen; 3 great-grandchildren; and another great-grandchild "on the way."

Among those who preceded her in passing were her husband, her parents, 5 brothers, and 1 sister.

A funeral service was held on Thursday, January 6, at St. Aloysius Church, with Father Festus Ejimadu officiating. Interment was at Michigan Memorial Park (Flat Rock). Arrangements were entrusted to Crane Funeral Home (Romulus). Memorial contributions to Capuchin Mission Association (1820 Mt. Elliott Avenue, Detroit, MI 48207-3485) would be greatly appreciated. □

Russell R. Lambert



Russell Lambert served Romulus as a councilman, fireman, and member of various civic boards.

Russell R. Lambert of Romulus, Michigan, passed away on Wednesday, December 15, 2004, at the age of 55.

The son of Daniel I. and Dorothy G. (Geuth) Lambert was born in Detroit, Michigan, on Friday, September 9, 1949.

Russ, a 1968 graduate of Romulus High School, was a man who believed in serving his community and his country. In 1969, he joined the U.S. Navy and served four years, including time in Vietnam.

After leaving the military, Russ married his high-school sweetheart, Maria Devita, and the couple moved to California to start a family. There, Russ co-owned a successful construction company, building beautiful homes for many years.

By the mid eighties, homesickness got the best of Russ and Maria, and they moved their family back to Romulus. Immediately, Russ became an active in the community, joining the City's volunteer fire department (1987-1989) and coaching Little League.

In 1989, Russ was elected to the first of two two-year terms on the Romulus City Council. He was especially proud to have been one of only three councilmen who consistently opposed the construction of a controversial hazardous-waste injection well from the time it was first proposed in 1990.

Later, then-Mayor William A. Oakley appointed Russ to the Romulus Building Authority, on which he served until his death. He was also a member of the Romulus Planning Commission for the past three years.

Russ, most recently employed with Visteon Corporation, was a member of

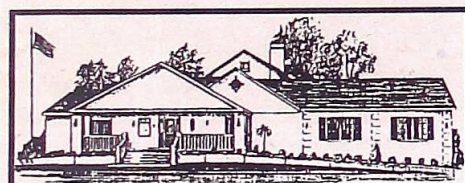
the Honor Guard for Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post #9568 (Romulus). Among the dedicated family man's numerous interests was working on and designing cars, as well as hunting, fishing, and golfing.

Surviving Russ are his wife; 3 sons, Eric B. (Wyandotte, MI), Joseph N. (Romulus), and Julian M.V. Lambert (Wyandotte); 3 brothers, Alan R. (Romulus), Randy (Monroe, MI), and Robert E. Lambert (New York, NY); and a sister, Sandra Purcell (Romulus).

His parents were among those who preceded him in passing.

A funeral service was held on Saturday, December 18, at Crane Funeral Home (Romulus), with Reverend Arthur Willis (Pentecostal Missionary Baptist Church, Romulus) officiating. Cremation rites were accorded. Memorial contributions to the Kidney Foundation would be greatly appreciated. □

As part of our commitment to community service, "the little paper" publishes obituary notices, free of charge, for all Romulus residents and their family members.



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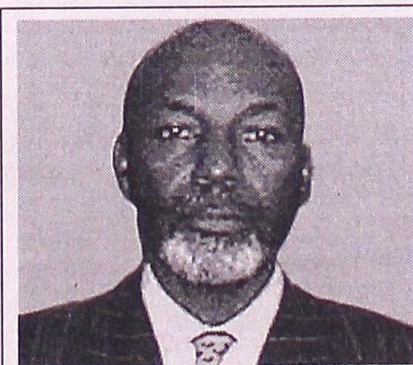
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